

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT
PUBLIC SESSION
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2012
7:00P.M.**

1. OPENING

1.1.1 Call to Order

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1.1.2 Roll Call

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant (Late), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Councilmember Johnie L. Higgs, Sr., Council President Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson (Late), Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Orson Carter, General Ledger Supervisor, Vincent Jones, City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Johnny Thompson, Public Works Director

1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:

The invocation was given by Councilmember Yeargin

1.1.4. Approval of Agenda

It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Yeargin to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

1.1.5. Approval of April Meeting Minutes

- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the Public Session meeting minutes for Monday, February 13, 2012. The motion carried.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Closed Session meeting minutes for Monday, May 7, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to approve the Regular Work Session meeting minutes for Monday, May 7, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.

- It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve Public Session meeting minutes for Monday, May 14, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Raynor and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Wednesday, May 16, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Higgs to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Wednesday, May 23, 2012. The motion carried. The minutes were unanimously approved.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Hardy and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve the Special Session meeting minutes for Wednesday, May 30, 2012. The motion carried.

2. PRESENTATIONS:

- 2.1. Joanne Benson, Senator 24th District,
 - Senator Benson was unable to attend the meeting on Monday, June 11, 2012.
- 2.2. Seat Pleasant Board of Election Supervisors, Mayor Eugene W. Grant,
 - Mayor Grant presented Pamela Boone, Chair of the Board of Election Supervisors, Denise Cintron and Khari Gzifa as Members of the Board of Election Supervisors.
 - It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and second by Councilmember Raynor to approve the appointment of the Board of Elections Supervisors. The motion carried. It was unanimously approved.
- 2.3. Sgt. Nolan, Maryland State Police-Interim Chief of Police, Vincent Jones, City Administrator,
 - Mr. Jones introduced Sgt. Nolan as the Interim Chief of Police for the City of Seat Pleasant for the next 60 to 90 days.
 - Sgt. James Nolan stated he had 25 years with the State and 6 years as a DEA Agent. He stated that he has worked many assignments from Garrett County down to the Eastern Shore. He stated that he has K-9 experience.
 - Councilman Porter requested a motion to approve Sgt. Nolan as Interim Chief of Police
 - It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by councilmember Raynor to approve Sgt. James Nolan as the Interim Chief of Police. The motion carried. It was unanimously approved.

3. LEGISLATION

- 3.1. Ordinance O-12-16 Seat Pleasant Activity Center Surplus Property.

Ordinance O-12-16 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, June 4, 2012 and the first reading was conducted. It was motioned by Councilmember Simms and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to table the second reading of Ordinance O-12-16. The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

3.2. Ordinance O-12-17 FY 2011-2012 Budget Amendment for Code Enforcement Vehicle. Ordinance O-12-17 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, June 11, 2012 and the first was conducted.

3.3. Resolution R-12-17 Competitive Bid Waiver for Code Enforcement Vehicle Purchase was introduced by the City Council on Monday, June 11, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Raynor to approve Resolution R-12-17. The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

3.4. Resolution R-12-18 Approving the Public-Private Partnership for Development of the Feggans Center Project was introduced on Monday, June 11, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Stephenson to approve Resolution R-12-18. The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

3.5. Ordinance O-12-20 FY2011-2012 Budget Amendment for the Parking Lot Lights was introduced on Monday, June 11, 2012 and the first reading was concluded.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Mayor's Report:

- He thanked the City Council for approving the public-private partnership with Kratos, LLC, which is the development of the Feggans Center site.
- We are in the process of planning the ground-breaking ceremony, which will be in the fall. He stated this will be the largest event we had in the City.
- The Health Summit was held on May 11, 2012 with 32 students from Fairmount Heights and Central High School and 50 seniors from the City of Seat Pleasant as we discussed how we can improve the outcome in our community.
- He stated the first event was held here in the City
- The Mayor Annual Tea was held on May 16, 2012 at the Largo Library
- He stated that he attended the National League of Cities conference last month.
- He stated that he attended the Road Side dedication on May 23, 2012 for Trooper Brown. He stated that it is a sign on 495 near the exit for Forestville Maryland
- He stated that Sgt. Nolan came in today hitting the ground running.

- He stated that the Strata Awards will be held on June 22, 2012. The honorees will be Pastor John K. Jenkins, Dr. Gould of the UMD, The Late Lulu Jenkins and Mayor Grant.
- He stated that we opened the clinic in Prince George's County Hospital.
- The Gospel Event will be held at First Baptist Church of Glenarden on June 30, 2012.

4.2. Kelly Porter, Council President Report:

- Council President Porter stated that his monthly report is on the information stand.
- Council President Porter stated that in his haste to approve the Resolution R-12-18 he neglected to request the reading of the Resolution. He stated that there are some changes in the Resolution that was not discussed with the Council.

4.3 Kevin Brenner, Chief-Seat Pleasant Volunteer Fire Department

- Chief Brenner was absent from the Public Session and no report was submitted.
- Council President Porter stated that we still need to work with the Fire Department to help them remain in the City.
- Mayor Grant stated that we still need citizens to sign the petition to reach our goal of 1,000 signatures to keep the fire department in the city.
- He requested that the Mr. Wright and Ms. Barnes provide a letter of support.

4.4. City Administrator – Vincent E. Jones

- He stated that we had three different RFQ's, the City Center Project, RFP for External Audit and the Master Plan
- He stated that we had a Home Improvement Grant through WACIF half will be a grant and the other half will be a loan.
- He stated that we received the Chief of Police resignation in the month of May.
- He stated that the Summer Youth will be starting on Monday, June 18, 2012.
- He stated that we held our annual Seat Pleasant Day. He thanked the Community Services Department staff.

4.5. Finance Department- Robert Ashton, Treasurer

- Mr. Carter stated that they have advertised for the Copier RFP on the E-Maryland Marketplace. The bid closed on May 25, 2012. They will be meeting with the City Administrator to review the bids.
- He stated the Finance Department report is on the information stand.

4.6. Police Department – Samuel Prue, Chief of Police

- Chief Prue was absent from the Public Session on Monday, June 11, 2012. He submitted his report in writing.
- Mr. Jones stated that the Community Open House was held on Saturday, May 19, 2012.
- He stated that the Code Enforcement Department did not have any court cases for the month of May.
- He stated that we are having a problem with grass not being cut.

4.7. Public Works Department- Johnny Thompson, Director of Public Works

- Mr. Thompson stated that Pepco is working in front of City Hall, as they have experienced a leak in the line. They stated that there are over 3,500 leaks in the line. He stated that they have been out for 24 hours since May 11, 2012.
- The City Clean Sweep and the Public Works Department picked over 17 tons of debris and house hold items.
- Councilman Yeargin wanted to know who would be in charge of installing the lights on the parking lot.
- Council President Porter stated that the item was on the agenda for discussion under unfinished business.

5. CITIZEN COMMENTS:

- Mr. Johnny Coleman, 12010 Chesterton Dr, Upper Marlboro, MD,
He wanted to know if we can name a street after Mayor Grant and former Mayor Kennedy.
He showed the Council some paperwork of his design.
- Wilhelmina Evans, 617 64th Avenue, Seat Pleasant, MD
She stated that Jesus passed by this way. She wished the Council a blessed night.
- Koko Barnes, 6195 Central Avenue, Capitol Heights, MD
She stated that she is here to provide a formal report and to request for funds for the Farmers Market.
She stated that they have changed the date to Thursday. She stated that they now have five Farmers for the market.
She stated that they have submitted the paper work to be a certified market to have the designation of the WIC and other vouchers.
They need two things from the Council. They need a three year lease to submit to the Department of Agriculture.

She stated that page 5 provides a budget for the market.

Councilwoman Simms stated that this report should be presented to the Council in a Work Session.

Councilman Porter stated he would like for her to come to the next month Work Session.

The location will be the old Police Station lot on Addison Road

- Jacquie Battle, 500-504 70th Place, Seat Pleasant, MD

Ms. Battle stated that she is very proud of the Council and staff.

She said things appear to be going so well. She stated that she has seen Public Works all over the City. She stated that they are doing a miraculous job especially on her street.

She stated that she wanted clarity on the County being in charge of a street in our city.

Councilman Porter stated that when the development of the Activity Center they realized that they need to go back by 15 feet.

Councilman Porter wanted to be sure what the City is doing is proper. He wanted to see if we can give them an easement, oppose to giving up the land.

He stated the Council wanted to understand and know what they were doing and giving away the land was not an option.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

6.1 Approval of Contract for the Grant Writer

- Councilwoman Simms wanted to know how the City Administrator would evaluate the contractor.
- Mr. Jones stated that he reviewed their resume to determine their qualification.
- He stated that the Grant Writer is a month to month contract to allow the Council to have additional grant writers.
- Councilwoman Simms wanted to know if the City Attorney reviewed the contracts.
- Mr. Jones stated the City Attorney had prepared the contracts.
- Councilman Yeargin wanted to know why all the contracts are not arranged with the same stipulation. He stated that we need to ensure that all the contract have the same precedence.
- Council President Porter stated that we had the discussion in the Work Session.
- Councilwoman Simms wanted to know if we need to do an RFP for the Grant position.

- Councilman Porter stated that his understanding was to provide the City with a wider prospective for the Grant.
- Councilwoman Simms stated that the contract positions should be advertised and giving people the opportunity to apply for the position.
- Mr. Jones stated that he would like to appeal to the Council so we will not be caught on July 1, 2012 with a vacant Grant Writer position.
- Councilman Yeargin stated that he feels that we need to state any person interested in applying for the position in the advertisement should submit their resume for the position.
- It was motioned by Councilman Yeargin and seconded by Councilwoman Simms that as of July 1, 2012 any contractual agreement positions must be re-applied for as the current status to be agreed upon by the City Council for the FY2013 budget year.
- Councilmember Raynor wanted to add a friendly amended to have at least three candidates for each position. The amendment was seconded by Councilman Hardy.
- Mayor Grant wanted the City Council to know how the Council would resolve the concern if we do not get three candidates
- It was approved by the City Council that the contractual positions for the City be advertised.
- It was stated by Councilman Porter for the Governmental Affairs Committee to review the process for the advertisement

6.4. City Hall Parking Lot Lights Proposal

- The City Council reviewed the revised proposal and requested the first reading of the budget amendment ordinance.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

7.1. Approval of Expenditures for Dancing with the Strata Awards Dinner

- It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and second by Councilmember Raynor to approve the expenditures of the Dancing with the Strata Awards from the Economic Development Promotional Activities line item. The motion carried and was unanimously approved.

7.2. Approval of Emergency Repairs in the City Treasurer's Office.


- Mr. Jones stated that they will be filing a claim with the insurance company to pay for the repairs.
- Mr. Thompson stated that they discovered what was needed and it saved the City \$25,000.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 8.1. Health Partnership Meeting, Tuesday, June 12, 2012, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 6:00pm-8:00pm
- 8.2. WMATA Public Meeting, Tuesday, June 12, 2012, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 5:30pm-7:30pm
- 8.3. Ward I Meeting, Saturday, June 16, 2012, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 1:00pm-3:00pm
- 8.4. Ward II Crime Prevention Training, Wednesday, June 20, 2012, Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 6:00pm-8:00pm TENTATIVE
- 8.5. Prince George's Hospital Center Foundation Dancing with the Strata Awards, Friday, June 22, 2012, The Sunset Room at the National Harbor, 137 National Plaza, National Harbor, MD 20745 from 6:00pm-11:00pm
- 8.6. Area Civic Association Dinner, Wednesday, June 27, 2012 Seat Pleasant City Hall-Council Chambers from 6:00pm-8:00pm

9. ADJOURN- The meeting was adjourned at 9:07p.m.

Submitted by,


Dashaun N. Lanham
City Clerk